



INDIANO VAUGHAN ROBERTS & FIOMENA, LLP

Gerald W. Roberts
One North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 850
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 822-0033

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 3738 }
Atty. Docket: 4001-0012 (ZM0544) }
Applicant(s): Hawkins et al. }
Invention: POROUS IMPLANT WITH A }
DRIED, LUBRICIOUS WHEN }
WET, IN VIVO ABSORBABLE }
COATING }
Application Serial No.: 10/693,391 }
Application Filed: October 23, 2003 }
Examiner: Unknown }

Certificate Under 37 CFR § 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the **Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

on March 16, 2004



Gerald W. Roberts, Reg. No. 45,046

Dated: 03/16/2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

This Information Disclosure Statement (“IDS”) is filed in the above-identified application pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Applicant(s) call attention to the art reference(s) within the knowledge of Applicant(s) and Applicant’s(Applicants’) attorney which is(are) listed on the accompanying form(s) submitted herewith (namely, **one (1) Form PTO/SB/08A listing thirteen (13) reference(s)**).

No representation is intended that a complete search has been made of the prior art or that no better art references than those listed are available. The filing of this IDS is not an

Information Disclosure Statement
Atty. Docket: 4001-0012 (ZM0544)
Application Serial No.: 10/693,391

admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(b).

None of the art cited is believed to disclose or suggest the invention recited in the claims of the above-identified application. It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

A self-addressed, stamped return postcard is also submitted herewith. Please acknowledge receipt of this IDS (and the accompanying submission(s)) by marking and mailing the postcard.

Additionally, Applicant(s) respectfully request that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper also be considered to be a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and any shortages in fees be charged, or any over payments in fees be credited to the deposit account of Zimmer Technology, Inc., **deposit account No. 50-2779**.

A duplicate copy of this IDS is submitted herewith to facilitate any such deposit account transaction(s).

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald W. Roberts
Reg. No. 45,046

March 16, 2004

One North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 850
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Phone: (317) 822-0033



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/693,391
Filing Date	October 23, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hawkins
Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	

Attorney Docket Number 4001-0012 (ZM0544)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 6,544,472	04-08-2003	Compton et al.	
		US- 2003/0036794	02-20-2003	Ragheb et al.	
		US- 6,413,539	07-02-2002	Shalaby	
		US- 6,410,044	06-25-2002	Chudzik et al.	
		US- 6,176,849	01-23-2001	Yang et al.	
		US- 6,110,483	08-29-2000	Whitbourne et al.	
		US- 6,080,488	07-27-2000	Hostettler et al.	
		US- 5,714,159	02-03-1998	Shalaby	
		US- 5,612,052	03-18-1997	Shalaby	
		US- 5,509,899	04-23-1996	Fan et al.	
		US- 5,464,440	11-07-1995	Johansson	
		US- 5,409,703	04-25-1995	McAnalley et al.	
		US- 4,487,808	12-11-1984	Lambert	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ "Number ⁴ "Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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